(b) if so, whether Government are considering to build more platforms there, to accommodate more passengers and to avoid congestion during arrival and departure of trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Two additional platforms at Patna will be constructed. The work of new passenger terminal at Rajendranagar is also in progress. This after completion would further reduce congestion at Patna due to origination/ termination of some of the trains from Rajendranagar.

Funds for conversion of Kolar-Chikkaballapur Rail Line

*370. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA:

PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is releasing funds for conversion of metre gauge rail line from Kolar to Chikkaballapur into broad gauge, which has been pending for more than ten years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI NITISH KUMAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) A survey for conversion of the narrow gauge rail line to broad gauge from Kolar to Chickkballapur has been recently completed. As per the survey report, the cost of conversion of 85 km long line has been assessed as Rs. 53.45 cr. with negative rate of return. Due to unremunerative nature of the line and constraint of resources, it has not been found feasible to consider the proposal for the present.

Grants to A.N.S.I.S.S.

*371. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi, has reduced its grant to A.N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies (ANSISS) during the last few years; if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the grants provided to ANSISS during the last three years;

(c) whether Government have asked the State Government to submit any revival plan for the Institute; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the State Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b)As informed by ICSSR, the grant to A.N. Sinha Institute of Social Studies has not been reduced excepting 1999-2000 involving a marginal decrease to the tune of Rs. 0.57 lakh due to economy instructions of the Govt. of India. The grant provided to ANSISS during last three years is as under:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Grants released
1998-99	21.88
1999-2000	21.31
2000-2001	37.50
2001-2002 (Allocation)	43.00

In addition to the above grant, ICSSR provided a sum of Rs. 3.63 lakh during 1998-99 for research and library development. Besides, a sum of Rs. 8.00 lakh was released to the Institute during 2000-2001 as part of ICSSR's share to meet some of the deficits based on the directive from the Patna High Court.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Production cost of wheat, paddy, sugarcane and cotton

†*372. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any assessment about production cost of wheat, paddy, sugarcane and cotton in the country;

(b) if so, the average production cost of the above products in the country during 1998-99 and 2000-2001; and

(c) the maximum and minimum cost of above products during above years, alongwith the names of concerned States?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a)Yes Sir. Under the Comprehensive Scheme for Studying the Cost of Cultivation of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.